Application No.: 09/852,343 Filing Date: May 9, 2001

Docket No.: 577-478

Page 3

a connector body having a cable receiving end on opposed connector end; and a locking sleeve, said locking sleeve and said connector body having cooperative structure placing said locking sleeve in detachable, re-attachable engagement with said receiving end of said connector body for securing said cable in said connector body, wherein said locking sleeve is movable from a first detachable position loosely retaining said cable in said connector

REMARKS

The application has been amended. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 20 have been amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

body to a second inseparable position locking said cable to said body.--

Undersigned counsel wishes to thank Examiner Ta for the courtesies extended at a personal interview conducted at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. As discussed at that interview, and as reflected in the Interview Summary Record, the Examiner agreed that the cited prior art does not disclose both the detachable and reattachable engagement capability of the claimed connector. Examiner Ta, however, suggested that certain language should be incorporated into the claims so as to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and place the claims in better form.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, claims 1, 3, 5 and 20 have been amended. The amendments to these claims are submitted for the purposes of clarifying the claims and placing the claims in better form. These amendments are not considered to be

24

C

Application No.: 09/852,343

Filing Date: May 9, 2001 Docket No.: 577-478

Page 4

limiting in any fashion inasmuch as the Examiner agreed that the prior art does not disclose the detachable and reattachable engaging capability of the connector of the present invention as is set forth in the claims.

Having amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion and having distinguished to the satisfaction of the Examiner the claims of the present invention over the prior art, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8 and 20-22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,470,257 to Szegda is overcome.

Furthermore, the rejection of method claims 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,210,222 to Langham et al is also overcome. The Examiner again agreed that the prior art does not disclose the steps set forth in claim 17.

The remaining rejection, namely to claims 9-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Szegda is overcome by virtue of their dependency from claims 1 and 5.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application including claims 1-22 is in condition for allowance. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Application No.: 09/852,343 Filing Date: May 9, 2001 Docket No.: 577-478

Page 5

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response or wish to discuss this matter in further detail, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore J. Abbruzzese Registration No.: 30,152 Attorney for Applicant(s)

HOFFMANN & BARON, LLP 6900 Jericho Turnpike Syosset, New York 11791

(973) 331-1700

Application No.: 09/852,343

Filing Date: May 9, 2001 Docket No.: 577-478

Page 6

<u>VERSION OF AMENDMENT WITH MARKINGS</u> <u>TO SHOW CHANGES MADE</u>

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A coaxial cable connector comprising:

a connector body having a cable receiving end and an opposed connection end; and a locking sleeve, said locking sleeve and said connector body having cooperative structure placing said locking sleeve in detachable, re-attachable engagement with said receiving [insertion] end of said connector body for securing a [said] cable in said connector body, wherein said locking sleeve is movable from a first position loosely retaining said cable in said connector body to a second position inseparably locking said cable to said connector body.

- 3. (Twice Amended) A coaxial cable connector of claim 1 wherein said <u>locking sleeve</u> movement from said first position to said second position is along a linear direction.
- 5. (Twice Amended) A connector for terminating a coaxial cable having a center conductor, an insulator surrounding said center conductor, a shield surrounding said insulator and a jacket covering said shield, said connector comprising:

a connector body for receiving said cable, said body having a receiving end for insertably receiving said cable and an opposed connection end for extension of said center conductor therefrom; and

Application No.: 09/852,343

Filing Date: May 9, 2001 Docket No.: 577-478

Page 7

a locking sleeve, said locking sleeve and said connector body having cooperative structure placing said locking sleeve in resilient detachable, re-attachable engagement with said receiving [insertion] end of said connector body for securing a [said] cable in said connector body, wherein said locking sleeve is movable between a first position wherein said cable is loosely retained in said connector body to said second position inseparably locking said cable to said connector body.

20. (Amended) A coaxial cable connector comprising:

a connector body having a cable receiving end on opposed connector end; and a locking sleeve, said locking sleeve and said connector body having cooperative structure placing said locking sleeve in detachable, re-attachable engagement with said receiving end of said connector body for securing said cable in said connector body, wherein said locking sleeve is movable from a first detachable position loosely retaining said cable in said connector body to a second inseparable position locking said cable to said body.--